

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00663 231229Z

43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

SAB-01 IO-10 AID-05 TRSE-00 /073 W

----- 007408

R 211000Z JUN 75

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2114

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY SANA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L B A G H D A D 6 6 3

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IZ, XF

SUBJECT: IRAQI POLICY IN THE GULF

1. SUMMARY: INFORMATION ON IRAQ'S NEW POLICY IN THE GULF IN WAKE OF RAPPROCHEMENT WITH IRAN AND SAUDI ARABIA IS STILL HARD TO COME BY. WHAT APPEARS TO BE EMERGING IS NOT ADVOCACY OF SECURITY PACT OR OTHER FORMAL ARRANGEMENTS, BUT RATHER DESIRE FOR GOOD BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH ALL LITTORAL STATES AND AN INFORMAL AGREEMENT WITH IRAN AND SAUDI ARABIA THAT INSURES IRAQ'S VITAL INTERESTS, NOTABLY ASSURED PASSAGE THROUGH STRAITS OF HORMUZ. END SUMMARY.

2. MOST RELIABLE INFORMATION I HAVE DEVELOPED COMES FROM

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BAGHDA 00663 231229Z

BRITISH AMBASSADOR GRAHAM WHO DISCUSSED SUBJECT RECENTLY WITH

MFA U/S JAMALI. JAMALI SAID FLATLY THAT IRAQ NOT INTERESTED IN FORMAL SECURITY PACT, BUT WISHED TO OBTAIN AGREEMENT WITH IRAN AND SAUDI ARABIA ON FREEDOM OF ACCESS TO GULF. JAMALI INDICATED IRAQ WOULD AGREE TO PASSAGE OF FOREIGN NAVAL VESSELS ON ROUTINE SHIP VISITS BUT NOT PASSAGE FOR OPERATIONAL PURPOSES. GRAHAM SAID IRAQI POSITION COULD PRESUMABLY CAUSE PROBLEM FOR U.S. NAVAL UNITS STATIONEED IN BAHRAIN. HE PERSONALLY THOUGHT IT MIGHT BE IN U.S. AND WESTERN INTERESTS IN GULF EVENTUALLY TO GIVE UP BAHRAIN BASE.

3. EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR AL-NAGGAR, COMMENTING ON RECENT VISIT OF PRINCE FAHD, WHICH HE SAID WENT EXTREMELY WELL, TOLD ME HE UNDERSTOOD THAT SHAH HAD TOLD BOTH SAUDIS AND IRAQIS THAT IRAN WOULD WELCOME ARAB LITTORAL STATES ADOPTING A COMMON POSITION ON THE VARIOUS QUESTIONS RELATING TO THE GULF AND THEN IFAN AND ARAB STATES COULD COOPERATE TOGETHER. SHAH REPORTEDLY SAID RAN HAD NO INTEREST IN DIVIDING GULF STATES OR HAVING SPECIAL POSITION IN CERTAIN OF THEM.

4. PRESIDENT AL-BAKR SENT SPECIAL ENVOY MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS HISHAN ASH-SHWI TO UAE, KUWAIT, BAHRAIN AND QATAR JUNE 17/18, PRESUMABLY AS PART OF GOI POLICY OF WINNING THEIR CONFIDENCE BY BRIEFING THEM ON PRINCE FAHD VISIT AND JUNE 13 TREATY WITH IRAN.

5. COMMENT: SUCCESS OF NEW IRAQI EFFORT TO WIN FRIENDS AND INFLUENCE GULF STATES THROUGH COOPERATION IS LIKELY TO HINGE ON SUCCESS OF RAPPROCHEMEENT WITH SAUDI ARABIA, SETTLEMENT OF BORDER PROBLEM WITH KUWAIT, AND POSITION ON DHOFAR WAR. SAUDI AMBASSADOR AL-SUGAIR HAS BEEN UNCOMMUNICATIVE ABOUT FAHD VISIT, BUT HE HAS SAID THAT SAUDI GOVERNMENT NOW CONVINCED THAT BAS C CHANGE HAS TAKEN PLACE IN IRAQ'S POLICY TOWARD ARAB MONARCHIES. IT WILL HOWEVER PROCEED WITH CAUTION. LITTLE PROGRESS THUS FAR ACHIEVED ON KUWAITI BORDER DEMARCATION, BUT THIS MAY WELL BE DUE TO GOI CONCENTRATION DURING PAST THREE MONTHS ON COMPLEX BORDER NEGOTIATING WITH IRAN. I HAVE NO INDEPENDENT INFO ON IRAQI SUPPORT FOR DHOFAR WAR, BUT EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR AL-NAGGAR CLAIMS THAT IRAQ CEASED ALL ASSISTANCE TO DHOFAR REBELS ABOUT SIX MONTHS AGO AND ITS RELATIONS WITH PDRY ARE STRAINED.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BAGHDA 00663 231229Z

6. IRAQ'S CONFLICT WITH SYRIA HAS GIVEN FURTHER IMPETUS TO NEW GULF POLICY IN SAME WAY THAT CONFLICT WITH IRAN AND KURDS TURNED GOI INTO CHAMPION OF ARAB SOLIDARITY. MOST ARAB AMBASSADORS HERE SEEM TO BELIEVE IRAQ HAS PRESENTED BETTER CASE THAN SYRIANS AND GOI NO DOUBT HOPES THAT GULF STATES' SUBSIDIES TO SYRIA WILL GIVE THEM INFLUENCE WITH SYRIA THAT WILL REDOUND TO IRAQ'S BENEFIT.

LOWRIE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, PERSIAN GULF
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BAGHDA00663
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750217-1025
From: BAGHDAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750626/aaaaaxhf.tel
Line Count: 116
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 AUG 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <24 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IRAQI POLICY IN THE GULF
TAGS: PFOR, IZ, XF
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006